

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS**

**Call to Order:** By Vice Chair Janna Taylor on March 9, 2007 at  
8:04 A.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Eve Franklin, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Janna Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Tim Callahan (D)  
Rep. Edith Clark (R)  
Rep. Bill E. Glaser (R)  
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)  
Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D)  
Rep. Galen Hollenbaugh (D)  
Rep. Joey Jayne (D)  
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)  
Rep. Bill McChesney (D)  
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)  
Rep. John L. Musgrove (D)  
Rep. Rick Ripley (R)  
Rep. Jon C. Sesso (D)  
Rep. Jack Wells (R)  
Rep. Craig Witte (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. John Sinrud, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Bill Beck (R)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Linda Keim, Committee Secretary  
Jon Moe, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted:	HB 294, HB 273, HB 114, HB 195, HB 196, HB 148, HB 27, HB 201, HB 240, HB 278, HB 293, 3/5/2007
Executive Action:	None

**HEARING ON HB 294**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:03:31 Rep. Sue Dickenson (D), HD 25, opened the hearing on HB 294, Soldier appreciation scholarships.

[EXHIBIT](#) (aph50a01)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:07:51 Colonel Jim Jacobson, United States Army-Retired

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:08:30 Joe Foster, Administrator, Montana Veterans Affairs Division

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:08:50 Rep. Ripley  
00:09:12 Rep. Dickenson  
00:10:25 Rep. Taylor  
00:10:27 Rep. Dickenson  
00:11:56 Rep. Sesso  
00:12:09 Rep. Dickenson  
00:14:17 Rep. Dickenson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:14:58 Rep. Dickenson

**HEARING ON HB 273**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:16:14 Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R), HD 77, opened the hearing on HB 273, Revise motor vehicle registration laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:19:20 Rhonda Wiggers, County Treasurers' Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:21:03 Dean Roberts, Administrator, Motor Vehicle Division

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:25:42 Rep. Musgrove  
00:26:16 Mr. Roberts  
00:26:34 Rep. Sesso  
00:27:05 Mr. Roberts  
00:28:53 Mr. Roberts  
00:30:31 Rep. Ripley  
00:30:51 Rep. Mendenhall  
00:31:30 Rep. Kasten  
00:32:26 Rep. Mendenhall

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:33:53 Rep. Mendenhall

**HEARING ON HB 114**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:34:55 Rep. Alan Olson (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 114; Establish Montana electrical transmission and pipeline authority.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:36:35 Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
00:36:58 Leo Berry, Attorney, Great Northern Power Development  
00:39:56 Tom Ebzery, Attorney, Puget Sound, Portland Electric, Avista Corp  
00:41:17 Bud Clinch, Executive Director, Montana Coal Council  
00:41:52 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association (WETA)  
00:42:54 Daniel Watson, Roosevelt County Commissioner

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:44:10 Jeff Barber, Montana Environmental Information Center

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:45:53 Rep. Kasten  
00:46:14 Mr. Berry  
00:46:53 Rep. Kasten  
00:47:53 Rep. Olson

00:48:25 Rep. McChesney  
00:48:33 Rep. Olson  
00:50:27 Rep. Olson  
00:51:11 Rep. Ripley  
00:51:44 Rep. Olson  
00:52:37 Rep. Witte  
00:52:59 Rep. Olson  
00:53:09 Mr. Moe  
00:55:20 Rep. Kasten  
00:55:25 Mr. Moe  
00:55:43 Rep. Kasten

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:55:50 Rep. Olson

**HEARING ON HB 195**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:59:00 Rep. Michael Lange (R), HD 55, opened the hearing on HB 195, Revise developmental disabilities services.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:04:06 Rep. Witte  
01:04:28 Rep. Lange

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:04:34 Rep. Lange

**HEARING ON HB 196**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:04:44 Rep. Michael Lange (R), HD 55, opened the hearing on HB 196, Create coal development impact fund.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:09:13 Rep. Kasten  
01:10:13 Rep. Lange  
01:11:04 Rep. McChesney  
01:12:10 Rep. Lange  
01:12:21 Rep. Sesso  
01:21:36 Rep. Lange  
01:22:38 Rep. Morgan  
01:23:08 Rep. Lange  
01:25:48 Rep. Witte  
01:28:36 Rep. Lange  
01:30:03 Rep. McChesney  
01:34:04 Rep. Lange  
01:35:29 Rep. Kasten

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:36:56 Rep. Lange

**HEARING ON HB 148**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:39:17 Rep. Wanda Grinde (D), HD 48, opened the hearing on HB 148, Pool inspection fee.

[EXHIBIT \(aph50a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(aph50a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(aph50a04\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:41:37 Kathleen McCarthy, Bureau Chief for Disease Prevention and Control, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)  
01:42:41 Jim Carlson, Director Environmental Health, Missoula City County Health Department; on behalf of Health Departments in Missoula, Yellowstone, Gallatin, Flathead, Lewis and Clark, Silver Bow, and Cascade Counties

[EXHIBIT \(aph50a05\)](#)

01:45:50 Mike Henderson, Administrator, Communicable Disease Control Division, Lewis and Clark County Health Department

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:47:20 Rep. Kasten

01:48:35 Rep. Grinde

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:49:18 Rep. Grinde

**HEARING ON HB 27**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:49:45 Rep. Robyn Driscoll (D), HD 51, opened the hearing on HB 27, Establish wireless enhanced 9-1-1 system.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:51:51 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

01:53:05 Nanette Gilbertson, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association

01:53:34 Michael Strand, CEO and General Counsel, Montana Communications Systems

01:54:59 Margaret Morgan, ALLTEL Communications

01:55:47 Jim Kembel, Montana Association of Chiefs of Police, on behalf of Kevin Myrehy, Lewistown

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:56:18 Dennis Lopach, TRACFONE

**Informational Testimony:**

01:57:57 Jeff Brandt, Deputy Chief of Administration, Department of Administration

01:58:39 Jim McKeon, Miscellaneous Tax Unit Manager, Department of Revenue (DOR)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:59:11 Rep. Morgan

02:00:46 Mr. Brandt

02:02:16 Rep. Morgan

02:05:17 Ms. Morgan

02:06:23 Ms. Morgan

02:07:53 Mr. Lopach

02:08:51 Rep. Kasten  
02:10:11 Ms. Morgan  
02:13:11 Rep. Kasten  
02:14:17 Mr. Brandt  
02:15:36 Rep. Kasten  
02:15:41 Mr. Brandt  
02:16:54 Rep. Sesso  
02:17:30 Mr. Strand  
02:18:00 Rep. Sesso  
02:19:03 Mr. Strand  
02:21:57 Rep. Sesso  
02:24:09 Mr. Strand  
02:26:31 Rep. Ripley  
02:26:39 Rep. Witte  
02:27:11 Rep. Driscoll  
02:27:18 Rep. Witte  
02:27:52 Mr. Brandt  
02:29:12 Rep. Witte

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:29:31 Rep. Driscoll

**HEARING ON HB 201**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:31:40 Rep. Mike Jopek (D), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB 201, Revise opencut mine laws and set fees.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:37:12 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Contractors' Association  
02:43:39 Neil Harrington, Department of Environmental Quality

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:48:07 Rep. Ripley  
02:48:35 Rep. Jopek  
02:48:51 Rep. Ripley  
02:49:29 Mr. Harrington

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:52:16 Rep. Jopek

**HEARING ON HB 240**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:55:00 Rep. Bill Nooney (R), HD 100, opened the hearing on HB 240, Short-term emergency lodging tax credit.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:56:12 James Royan, letter from Cynthia Weese, Executive Director, YMCA, Missoula

**EXHIBIT (aph50a06)**

03:02:25 Mary Smith, Office Manager, Helena Salvation Army

03:03:38 Stuart Doggett, Montana Inn Keepers Association

03:04:47 Jennifer Hill-Hart, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

03:06:12 Jim McKeon, Department of Revenue

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:06:29 Rep. Morgan

03:10:33 Mr. McKeon, DOR

03:11:14 Rep. Jayne

03:12:12 Rep. Nooney

03:12:59 Rep. Hawk

03:14:25 Rep. Nooney

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:16:45 Rep. Nooney

**HEARING ON HB 278**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

03:17:25 Rep. Ron Stoker (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 278, Continue genetics program and fee.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

03:21:08 Jack Casey, Administrator, Shodair Hospital, Helena

03:25:58 Jim Ahrens, Montana Hospital Association; named as a proponent by Rep. Himmelberger

03:26:05 Mona Jamison, Montana Hospital Association



**Opponents' Testimony:**

03:27:07 Frank Kotee, Health Insurance Plans; also representing  
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana for Tanya Ask  
03:34:06 Jacklyn Lenmark, American Council of Life Insurers  
(ACLI); American Insurance Association (AIA); also, on  
behalf of Greg Van Horsen, State Farm Insurance  
**EXHIBIT (aph50a07)**  
03:37:24 Don Allen, Montana Association of Insurance and  
Financial Advisers

**Informational Testimony:**

03:38:13 Joanne Dotson, State Health Department, Genetics  
Contracts administration  
03:38:38 John Huth, Division Administrator, State Auditor's  
Office  
03:38:57 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Analysis Staff

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:40:10 Rep. Morgan  
03:40:39 Ms. Wilkinson  
03:41:27 Ms. Wilkinson  
03:42:44 Rep. Morgan  
03:45:41 Mr. Casey  
03:47:11 Rep. Taylor  
03:47:15 Mr. Casey  
03:47:28 Rep. Taylor  
03:48:39 Mr. Huth  
03:48:54 Rep. Taylor  
03:48:58 Rep. Stoker

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:49:17 Rep. Stoker

**HEARING ON HB 293**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

03:51:12 Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R), HD 47, opened the hearing  
on HB 293, Allocate lottery money to teacher's  
retirement system.  
**EXHIBIT (aph50a08)**

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

03:55:08 Eric Feaver, MEA/MFT

**Informational Testimony:**

03:58:26 David Senn, Executive Director, Teachers' Retirement  
System

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:59:27 Rep. Himmelberger

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 12 P.M.

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REP. JOHN SINRUD, Chairman

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LINDA KEIM, Secretary

JS/lk

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([aph50aad.pdf](#))**